



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

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Subject: Electronic Contract Solicitations

Applicability: Information

1. In 1995, USACE developed the Electronic Bid Sets (EBS) system for posting contract solicitations on the Internet. EBS was implemented as a distributed system with each district maintaining a separate web site. A central Electronic Contract Solicitations (ECS) approach was conceived in 2003 to simplify the system. The ECS consolidates all of the Corps' solicitations at The CADD/GIS Technology Center and links to the Federal Technical Data Solution (FedTeDS; <https://www.fedteds.gov/>) system to validate users requesting solicitations.
2. In June 2004, the USACE Chief Information Officer queried the Corps about directly posting solicitations to FedTeDS and eliminating the ECS. Subsequently, an upcoming change to the Federal Acquisition Regulation was announced that will mandate the use of FedTeDS for dissemination of Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU) solicitations. USACE has determined that all Corps solicitations will be treated as SBU and will require the use of FedTeDS.
3. A team from the CADD/GIS Technology Center, the Vicksburg District and the Memphis District investigated FedTeDS. The team concluded that FedTeDS offers security controls not available in the ECS system, but needs enhancements to meet the Corps' requirements for uploading multiple files and posting of plan holder lists. In response, FedTeDS agreed that they would provide these capabilities.
4. The central ECS system is scheduled for implementation in early 2005 and will be used until the requested improvements to FedTeDS are completed. The CADD/GIS Technology Center will coordinate with districts on transitioning to ECS. HQUSACE will keep users informed about the migration to FedTeDS.
5. The technical point of contact for this bulletin is Elias Arredondo, CEERD-ID, 601-634-3140. The HQUSACE point of contact for this bulletin is Don Evick, CECW-CE-D, 202-761-4736.

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